

# The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 17.

LOCAL.—Messrs. Rozier, Welles, Beach and the others, whose arrest was mentioned yesterday, were, after examination by the U. S. Provost Marshal here, discharged.—The office of Provost Judge in this place has been abolished by an order from the U. S. War Department, and the business will be attended to by the Provost Marshal.—Capt. Robt. Boyd has been appointed Lieut. Colonel in the 1st District of Columbia regiment of Volunteers, vice, Col. Towers, resigned.—Numbers of the wounded in the late battles in Virginia, have been brought here, and distributed in the various hospitals.—There was some disorderly conduct among the Federal soldiers, leaving this place, on Saturday, owing to whisky; but the parties concerned were overpowered. Some few Mayflies begin to make their appearance; in the "old days" when the fish wharf was in full blast, they swarmed about this time.—Three brothers named Beach, living near Occoquan, were captured on Sunday by a Federal scouting party, and brought to this place.—Some of the Federal soldiers who left the battles below, from other causes than wounds, have been taken up here; fifteen officers (handcuffed) and three hundred soldiers (runaways) have been arrested in Washington and sent back.—Large quantities of herrings have been caught in Hunting Creek, in the last two days.—There is a strong current in the river, and much drift wood floating down.

The Washington Star of yesterday says: "We apprehended that there will be no general engagement between Grant and Lee for a day or two to come, as concurrent testimony represents the latter posted in a very strong line of works, long since constructed." It also says that Grant is receiving "large reinforcements," resting his men, and removing to his rear his sick and wounded. Gen. Lee's entrenched position is between the Po and Mataponi, and are regularly constructed earth works, now grown over with grass. It also says, that the Confederate prisoners at Belle Plain, on Saturday, attempted to escape, but were prevented by a battery being brought to bear upon them.

A Federal gunboat expedition up the Rappahannock last week, is reported to have destroyed ten torpedoes which the Confederates had sunk in the river; a skirmish, is said, also, to have occurred on land, in which "ten Confederates were killed and some twenty captured." Capt. Maxwell of the Confederate Navy, is reported to have been killed. This expedition destroyed a grist mill and a quantity of grain, and brought off a number of cattle, hogs, &c.

The N. Y. Post says that the public debt of the United States on the 10th of May, as has been ascertained from an official source, stood as follows: Debt bearing interest in coin, \$812,836, 162, the interest thereon being \$49,472,714; debt bearing interest in currency, \$404,191,935—interest \$22,109,429; debt bearing no interest, \$509,220,314. Total debt, \$1,726,248,411; interest, \$71,582,144.

Gold in New York yesterday, advanced to 176½.

An arrival at New York yesterday brings dates from Liverpool, via Queenstown to the 5th. The Denmark Conference had accomplished nothing and adjourned until the 9th, and the London Times thinks it might as well be abandoned. The Vienna journals reassert that the allies will make a cessation of hostilities on the condition of a complete suspension of the blockade. They also deny that Austria has any intention of sending a fleet to the Baltic. Two British ships have gone to the North Sea to watch the Austrian fleet. It was believed the whole channel fleet would follow, should the Austrians enter the Baltic. The Morning Post is very warlike towards Prussia and Austria. It was reported that the Georgia is to be sold at Liverpool, but another report is that she may be sold, providing she is unfit for a cruiser. The Southern club had invited the officers to a banquet. The Peruvian's news caused the Confederate loan to advance 4½ per cent., closing at 66@67. The Bank of England raised its rate of discount on the 4th to nine per cent.

A dispatch from Fortress Monroe on the 16th, says that the steamer Thomas Collier has arrived from Newbern with Chief Quartermaster Webster on board. He reports all quiet. The Richmond Examiner of the twelfth says: Meridian, May 9th, Steele's army, nine thousand strong, surrendered to Gen. Dick Taylor, at Camden, on the 28th ultimo. Gen. Price has demanded the surrender of Alexandria. Goldsboro, May 9.—The expedition to Newbern returned on Sunday, having captured sixty-three men. Twenty-nine Yankee prisoners were placed in Libby on the 11th instant.

A special dispatch to the New York Express from Fortress Monroe on the 15th says:—"It is feared here that Butler is not meeting with the success expected at his hands by Gen. Grant and others. His force is a very large one and his Generals able men, and with this force it was expected that he would capture Richmond, while Sheridan was cutting the railroads and telegraph wires, and while Grant was fighting the large army of Lee."

The Federal Surgeon who was paroled by Gen. Lee to bring the body of Gen. Wadsworth through the Confederate lines, says he saw General Longstreet in his tent. He was wounded in his collar bone. The wound is not mortal, but will incapacitate him for some time. He also says that Gen. J. E. B. Stuart was not down at Richmond, but is now in Lee's army, unhurt.

The Philadelphia American learns from the highest authority that the documents recently published purporting to be letters and dispatches from Earl Russell, Lord Lyons, and President Davis, through his private secretary, respecting the building of Confederate rams in British ports, were unmitigated forgeries from beginning to end, no such documents having ever been written by the parties whose names they bore.

A dispatch received by Gen. Halleck from Gen. Sherman states that a battle occurred on Sunday between him and the Confederates at Resaca, in which he lost some 3,000 in killed, wounded and missing. The railroad had been repaired to within seven miles of his position.

U. S. CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday, the resolution relating to the alleged arrangement between President Lincoln and General Blair and Schenck and a substitute offered by Mr. Wilson declaring General Blair not entitled to his seat in the House of Representatives, were referred to the Judiciary Committee. The House bill giving the right of preemption on the confiscated lands, and estates of the South, to persons in the military service of the United States during the present war, was referred to the Committee on Public Lands. The bill to further promote the efficiency of the navy was taken up and passed.—The bill to equalize the pay of the soldiers in the Army of the United States was considered.

In the House of Representatives, resolutions requiring President Lincoln to issue a proclamation of amnesty to any State that consents to withdraw from the Confederacy, with a guarantee that such State shall be left to reorganize its own institutions without dictation or interference from the Government of the United States, were offered, and laid on the table by a vote of 76 to 53. The bill granting lands to the Peoples' Pacific Railroad Company was called up, debated and rejected.

Agas, the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun writes: "In respect to the military position in front, it is generally understood in Congressional Republican circles that Gen. Lee has not crossed the North Anna, but is entrenched with his right on the "Ma" creek, and his left below Spottsylvania Court House. It is not supposed that his troops are on very short commons, because the returning wounded say in many cases that the Confederate killed had their knapsacks well stored. Besides, for all that is known here, the whole line of the Virginia and East Tennessee railroad is open to him for three hundred miles. Some reinforcements may reach him on that line, and some by the post and common roads from the direction of Lynchburg, but it is not thought that Breckinridge's army has joined him.

Secretary Welles, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Fox, Postmaster General Blair, and other Washington officials visited Fredericksburg, on Monday went through the hospitals, and also saw a large number of the Confederate prisoners and conversed with many.—They say that the tone of these prisoners is defiant, declaring that Lee is neither going to Richmond or Gordonsville. About 150 of the Confederate wounded have arrived at Washington, from Belle Plain. Some of these being but slightly wounded, were committed to the Old Capitol, and the others were sent to the Lincoln Hospital. Some few are in the hospitals in this place.

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